

Personal Statement

What is a personal statement?

The personal statement is a brief overview of who are you. It is your opportunity to stand out as an individual and to tell the scholarship committee things about yourself that may not be addressed or apparent in the application.

What should be in a personal statement?

Do more than simply list honors, awards or achievements. Your introduction should be creative so the reader wants to learn more about you.

Questions you should ask yourself, before writing:

- Who are you?
- What made you decide to go to college?
- What do you want to study? Be specific about who or what influenced you in that decision? Do you have any experience in the field?
- What do you intend on doing with your degree? What kind of contribution do you want to make, and how will you go about doing this?
- Have you done any community service, worked, or held any leadership positions?

How long should my statement be?

Make sure to read all of the application instructions. On average, the statement is about 500 words or 1.5 pages.

Community Service Essay

The community service essay should include more detail about the community service you completed. What did you do? When do you do it? How long did you volunteer? What have you learned from your experience? How has volunteering affected your goals and aspirations?

Financial Need Statement

Some scholarships want to know how much financial aid you are currently receiving to assess your need. State all Federal and State grants, loans, and work-study you received in your financial award letter. Mention all need-based and academic scholarships from Long Island University and private sources. Additionally, discuss any unusual circumstances, including but not limited to, a loss of a parent, filing FAFSA as an independent student or a parent/guardian recently becoming unemployed.